

REMARKS

This amendment seeks to cancel claims 27, 39-79, 82-88, 97,126, 141-143, 147, 148, 154, and 156-162 without prejudice, leaving claims 1-26, 28-38, 80, 81, 89-96, 98-125, 127-140, 144-146, 149-153, and 155 pending in the application.

A. WHY ENTRY OF THIS AMENDMENT IS APPROPRIATE

This amendment cancels all rejected claims (27, 39-79, 82-88, 97,126, 147, 148, and 154) and all non-elected claims (141-143 and 156-162). The only claims remaining in the application are those that have been allowed (1-26, 28-38, 80, 81, 89-96, 98-125, 127-140, 144-146, 149-153, and 155). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that entry of this amendment is appropriate under PTO practice rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

B. WHY ALLOWANCE OF THIS APPLICATION IS APPROPRIATE

Since only allowed claims 1-26, 28-38, 80, 81, 89-96, 98-125, 127-140, 144-146, 149-153, and 155 remain pending in the application, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for immediate allowance.

C. CLOSING

If there remain any issues that may be disposed of via a telephonic interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the local exchange given below.

The Director of the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office is

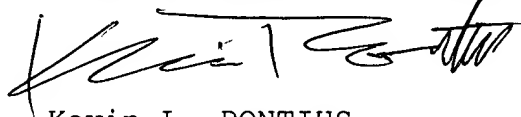
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No. 09/550,955

PATENT APPLICATION

authorized to charge any necessary fees, and conversely, deposit any credit balance, to Deposit Account No. 18-1579.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERTS ABOKHAIR & MARDULA, LLC



Kevin L. PONTIUS
Reg. No. 37512

Please direct telephone inquiries to:

Kevin Pontius at (505) 922-1400 or (703) 391-2900

Please continue to direct correspondence to:

Roberts Abokhair & Mardula, LLC
11800 Sunrise Valley Dr.
Suite 1000
Reston, VA 20191